The Wilderness Campaign

By JOHN McELROY.

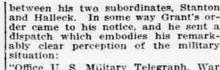
CHAPTER XXXIX.

liant men had gone in there to bury alley to the main highway of the coun-

the Middle Department, with headquarters at Baltimore, the Department The Shenandoah Valley.

The Shenandoah Valley had been well termed "the Valley of Humilia
well termed "the Valley of Humiliation" for the Union forces. Many bril-liant men had gone in there to bury tary Stanton and Chief of Staff Halleck. their reputations beyond all resurrec-tion. The Valley forms a sort of back ton Chas. A. Dana telegraphed to Grant:

try. The defense of Washington and toward pursuing or cutting off the eneover the broad plains of Manassas, ly-ing in front of the high wall of the Blue Ridge. Thru this wall were many gaps which formed gateways for the Confederate army to slip around the right flank of the Union army, over-power the force sent there to guard the Valley and swoop down on the Na-



"Office U. S. Military Telegraph, War Department, Washington, D. C., Aug. 3, 1864. "Cypher. 6 p. m.

"Cypher. 6 p. m.
"Lieut.-Gen. Grant, City Point, Va.:
"I have seen your dispatch, in which
you say: 'I want Sheridan put in command of all the troops in the field, with instructions to put himself south



GEN. SHERIDAN. (As he looked in 1864.)

of the enemy and follow him to the death. Wherever the enemy goes let death. Wherever the enemy goes let our treops go also. This, I think, is exactly right, as to how our forces should move. But please look over the dispatches you may have received from bere, even since you made that order, and d scover, if you can, that there is any idea in the head of anyone here, of 'putting our army south of the enemy' or of 'following him to the death' in any direction. I repeat to you it will

VIEW OF CHARLESTOWN, W. VA. SHERIDAN'S HEADQUARTERS. where Grant conferred with Sheridan on Sept. 16, 1864.)

hausted forces. Then Banks, Fremont and Sigel experienced humiliating defeat. Harper's Ferry, with its garrison. of 11,000, had been captured, and Mil-roy crushed at Winchester. None of our Generals had entered the Valley

scept to lose prestige.

The Valley was, and continued to be, the granary of Virginia. On its fertile limestone soil the descendants of the thrifty Germans raised immense crops. and their pastures were filled with fat cattle and fast horses. The frequent Confederate raids into the Valley were always timed to gather in the harvests and thus supply the Confederate commissary.

Gen. Grant Turns His Attention to the Valley.

When Grant assumed command of the armies of the United States in March, 1864, he had given Gen. Sigel, for whom employment was desired for political reasons, charge of the Valley, and with it a force which it was expected would be entirely sufficient. Gen. Grant had calculated to keep Gen. Lee so busy that he could not resort to his old device of detaching to crush our small force there, while Gen. Sigel was to be reinforced by the troops operat-



GEN. DAVID HUNTER.

ing in the country west of the Allebrought Gen. Grant to Wash ton to look more carefully into the situation. He found there were four sepgrate and distinct departments, name-ly, that of the Defenses of Washington, acumen, had seen where the fault lay

ger to Washington came from that in the Middle Department, leaving you watch it every day and hour and direction, since the broad Potomac Wallace to command the city of Baltiwould prevent a direct front attack more alone; but there is no head to from the Confederate army in Virginia. the whole, and it seems indispensable
The dismal chapter of humiliation that you should at once appoint one. had opened even with the very begin-ning of the war, when the rebel army, under Gen. Joe Johnston, eluded our dent will give none, and until you dicorps of observation under Gen. Pat-terson, and flung itself into the fight at be done everything will go on in the Bull Run just in time to crush our ex- deplorable and fatal way in which it has gone on for the past week.

The Policy of Stanton and Halleck. Gen. Grant says in his Memoirs:

Halleck and Secretary Stanton to keep had been so contradictory and confus-any force sent there (the Valley) in ing that he had lost all trace of the pursuit of the invading army, moving enemy. To this Gen. Grant answered

tional Capital. In fact, the only dan- the Eighth Corps and all other troops neither be done nor attempted unless

Grant Goes in Person.

Immediately upon the receipt of this dispatch from the President Gen. Grant started for the scene, and passed thru Washington without stopping. On the Monocacy he found Gen. Hunter with his army camped on those broad, fertile fields, and evidently at a loss what to do. With his usual directness, Grant asked him where the enemy was and what he, Hunter, proposed to do. Hunt-"It seemed to be the policy of Gen. er replied frankly that he did not know; that his orders from Washington



HARPER'S FERRY, WHERE SHERIDAN ASSUMED COMMAND AUG. 7. sent another division of his cavairy.

"I had previously asked to have Sheridan assigned to that command, but Mr. Stanton objected, on the ground that he was too young for so Gen. Grant had such confidence in the cared to do so.

"The Tafts are undoubtedly very loath to leave the house, where they have

Ing in the country west of the Alfegany Mountains. Sigel had made a
lamentable failure, and was driven
back to Harper's Ferry. That redoubtable old fighter, Gen. David Hunter,
superseded Sigel, inflicted a decisive
defeat upon the Confederates, and advanced to the very outskirts of Lynchburg before Lee could get a force there
to stop him. Then Hunter had retreatto stop him. Then Hunter had retreated by the way of the Kanawha, leaving

temporary duty whilst the enemy is
being expelled from the border. Unless
Gen. Hunter is in the field in person 1
want Sheridan put in command of all
the troops in the field, with instructions
to put himself south of the enemy and
follow him to the death. Wherever
the enemy goes let our troops go also.
Once started up the Valley, they ought
to be followed until we get possession
of the Virginia Central Railroad. If ed by the way of the Kanawha, leaving of the Virginia Central Railroad. If the Valley open. Down this Early had Gen. Hunter is in the field, give Sheriswept to threaten Washington, and dan direct command of the Sixth Corps compel Grant to loose his mortal clutch and Cavalry Division. All the cavalry, upon the throat of Lee's army. This I presume, will reach Washington in the course of to-morrow.

"U. S. Grant, Lieutenant-General." President Lincoln to Grant.

equal to his merits. He was a soldier

right and left so as to keep between the enemy and our Capital; and, generally speaking, they pursued this policy until all knowledge of the whereabouts of the enemy was lost. They were left, therefore, free to supply themselves with horses, beef cattle, and such provisions as they could carry away from western Maryland and Pennsylvania. I determined to put a stop to this. I started Sheridan at once for that field of operations, and on the following day sent another division of his cavalry.

I that he would find out for himself tage the President occupies and build a beautiful Italian garden on the site thereof. She has gone away into the Berkshires to spend the Autumn, and apparently has decided that she will not encourage any negotiations by which the President would retain possession of the house for another year or two. Her husband died-very suddenly a year ago from injuries received while he was riding horseback. There is little doubt that, if he had lived, Mr. Evans would have permitted the President occupies and build a beautiful Italian garden on the site thereof. She has gone away into the Berkshires to spend the Autumn, and apparently has decided that she will not encourage any negotiations by which the President would retain possession of the house for another year or two. Her husband died-very suddenly a year ago from injuries received while he was riding horseback. There is little doubt that, if he had lived, Mr. right and left so as to keep between the that he would find out for himself

"City Point, Va., Aug. 1, 1864; 11:30 should be given command of the mov-able force. Gen. Hunter was patriotic a. m.

"Maj.-Gen. Halleck, Washington. D. C.: and unselfish to a degree not often found among higher officers. He said that Gen. Halleck seemed to have lost all confidence in his ability, that such a command would be an embarrassness would be impaired by the distrust of those over him. This quite unusual sacrifice in the relinquishment of an important command impressed Grant strongly in Gen. Hunter's favor; but he acceded to his wishes, relieved him, he acceded to his wishes, relieved him, and put Sheridan in command not only army, but also of the new de

partment. Gen. Hunter's Case.

BEVERLY NOW THE AUTUMN CAPITAL.

Frost Has Already Changed the Leaves to Golden Hues—The President Has House Trouble—Politics Also Intrude Upon Him—The Important Judicial Appointments—The President and Ex-President-Roosevelt in the South.

Special to The National Tribune. of the fashionable North Shore. The The rent for a season or two sometimes stately trees have thrown off their folia as much as it would cost to build liage to make ready for resistance to the house. the wintry blasts. The profusion of hydrangeas have changed their heads of wondrous white to uninteresting maand the people in the big houses by the

back up to the little Montserrat Station, a couple of miles away, and receive the freightage of great variety from the cottage and from the Executive Offices, and are whirled away to Washington along with the special car that carries the President and members of his famlly.

The President returned here for the

the Shore. But in spite of his determination business has crowded in upon him. There has been no studied effort to discourage callers from coming, but in indirect ways attempts have been made to save the President's time. These attempts have not been altogether successful. There is such a volume of Administration business coming to a head in the Autumn that it is im-possible for the President to have two weeks of vacation without some inter-

Delightful Autumn Weather.

The days have been delightful for golfing and the President has been out upon the links almost every forenoon. The late afternoons and evenings he has devoted in the main to the sec.al pleas-ures of the season, in which Mrs. Taft has joined him. But his afternoons between 2 and 6 o'clock have been crowd-ed with numerous visitors and with the consideration of Government business. Some of the callers have been officials and some have been politicians, who had errands of more or less interest to the President. It will probably be so almost up to the day when he leaves for Washington, altho some of the poll-ticians in the West may sefer their visits to him till he reaches Washing-ton, because it will be more convenient for them to travel there than to go to

yachts Sylph and Mayflower, which have been in the vicinity of Bevthat the weather is cool and the early evenings a trifle frosty. But the Presidept and Mrs. Taft are enjoying motor rides nearly every afternoon out upon the splendid roads of Essex County, and are having delightful visits with their many friends.

Their inability to lease for another have been looking around for another place. Mrs. Taft has been househunting for about two weeks, and of late They have narrowed their quest to four or five places and within a short time will probably complete negotiations for a lease of one of those residences. It may be as far as five or six miles from their present cottage, but that is not a serious matter when one has a fleet of six or seven big automobiles at command in a country where the roads are as fine as highway en-gineers can build. The new Summer White House will probably be where between Beverly and Manches-ter, and it may be so near Beverly that the Executive offices can still be maintained in the house by the Bev-Harbor that Secretary Norton leased a couple of months ago.

The President Evicted.

There has been a deal of gossip about the necessity for the President finding another house. Some commentators have declared that the President was being evicted by Mrs. Robert Evans, the owner of the cottage he now oc-cupies. She is one of the ten or dozen cupies. She is one of the ten or dozen richest women in the United States, and occupies a cottage on the same estate, but it is a little farther down the private road from the entrance. There are probably some social troubles at the bottom of Mrs. Evans's refusal to lease to the President for another season, altho she denies that with some spirit and claims that she has long been determined to pull down the cot-tage the President occupies and build

the fidan assigned to that command, and the fidal fida bred people, chiefly from Boston. As the President has occasion to go to Boston and adjacent places several times during a Summer, his present lo-cation is especially desirable. He can motor from Beverly to Boston in an hour. It is only a few minutes' ride to the Myopia Hunt Club, where he

> tage. Some satisfactory arrangement will be made, however, before the Presi-dent and Mrs. Taft start back to Wash-ington. Their minds are fully made up to spending the next two summers on Gen. Hunter's case.
>
> Gen. Hunter was one of a very few to spending the next two summers on the North Shore, notwithstanding Mrs. laint that his fortunes had not been qual to his merits. He was a soldier to the ground and building an Italian garden there. One of the difficulties is

[dent's family, which is within his Beverly, Mass., Oct. 16 Autumn means. The prevailing cost of rent for leaves are strewing the beautiful lawns the North Shore cottages is very high.

The President and Politics,

When the President returned here in of wondrous white to uninteresting ina-roon. The golden glow adorning fences and artistocratic hedges has withered it was announced that he would hold and artistocratic neeges has with a substitute of the hipping October frost. But aloof from politics. He has been stickit is a season of glorious somber hues, ing to that as closely as he could, but with the developments from day to Atlantic linger.

The President and his family are among the number. It will be 16 days yet before the half dozen big Government automobiles cease chugging in and out of the aperture in the solid stone wall that marks the entrance to the Event of the form of the record of his Administration to date and probably will have nothing further to say in behalf of tration to date and probably will have nothing further to say in behalf of harmony between the factions. He feels the Evans cottage. For the present the Summer Capital, now more properly the Autumn Capital, is running full to say about the achievements of Conblast, and it will be till the express cars gress in legislation and about the nec-essity for harmony, but there is a deal of manuvering by prominent Republicans. In these days a President can-not afford to ignore such activities, for which reason he is trying to keep in touch without projecting himself into the contentions that still have no small part in the management of State Conressional campaigns.

The coming of Otto T. Bannard, of New York City, to Beverly recently has started speculation about an imporant role which he may have in the current campaign. The President saw Mr. Bannard only a few days ago in New York City, and on the heels of a conference there Mr. Bannard comes over to Beverly, where he becomes a guest at the Burgess Point Cottage and remains over Sunday. As far as can be learned Mr. Bannard is about the only New Yorker of influence whom the President has taken much into his confidence, and the inference at Beverly is that Mr. Bannard will come very close to being the President's repre-sentative in New York for the time be

Mr. Bannard is a Yale graduate, which is more or less of a favoring circumstance with the President, but he has also long been a warm personal friend. The President has a very high regard for Mr. Bannard's abilities and for his qualities as a man. The former Republican nominee for Mayor of New York is just the sort of a Republican to whom the President would naturally turn when in such a quandary as at present over a struggle in New York State. It is known that the President State. It is known that the President has all along been more or less suspicious of ex-Ambassador Lloyd Griscom, Chairman of the New York Republican County Committee and special representative of Col. Theodore Rossevelt. During Mr. Griscom's visit to Beverly everything seemed fair and above board, but there were ensuing circumstances which indicated that Chairman and Mayflower, stances which indicated that Chairman Griscom's principal was at least not altogether frank. The President deemed

ex-President.

has been a semblance of harmony between the President and the ex-President, but during the President's visit in New York City the other day some year or two the cottage they have been of those who traveled with him heard occupying is a disappointment, but they linside words about the status at Oyster Bay. The purport was that the Colonel is still talking in cynical ways about the President and the Administration, the President has been accompanying and is almost as emphatically unfriendly as just after the meeting of the Re-publican State Committee, where Vice President Sherman was designated for temporary Chairman. It has become almost an open secret now that Col. Roosevelt at Oyster Bay inspired the exceedingly hostile stories about President Taft, which came out in the newspapers under an Oyster Bay date line. All these things have sufficed to put the President very much on his guard. He has not indicated that he intends bearing a hand actively in the New York campaign, but it can safely be as-sumed that he will do his best to protect himself and his Administration against unfriendly activities on the part talk the President had with Mr. Bannard will be followed by others and that like coming. certain other New Yorkers, in whom he has particular confidence, will keep him informed of developments from ime to time. Postmaster-General that line

gram of congratulation to Henry L. accord with the provisions of the spe-Stimson, the Republican nominee, and he sincerely hopes for the success of permitting Mr. Moody to retire on full the Republican ticket in the Empire pay of \$12,000 a year any time before State campaign. Nevertheless, there are complications in the campaign most sympathetic letter, which has which his friends require him to watch been favorably commented upon by editout. They believe that after election torial writers. This leter, as a matter out. They believe that after election torial writers. This leter, as a matter of fact, was the climax of very friendly new lines, unless his State ticket is exchanges between the two men all duroverwhelmingly defeated and a hard overwhelmingly defeated and a ha lo not want him nominated in 1912. but alike of President Taft's supporters, eeding now, it would be no surprise showed his hand after the elec-He will then be in a good posi- confirm the nomination. tion to assert himself with reference Republican nominee in 1912 without injuring party prospects at th polls. The New York Campaign.

Under all these conditions, the New



The Troubles of a Republic.

in the season Lloyd Griscom was in- week has taken the oath of office as an vited there for the week-end, and not long afterward Representative Duncan McKinlay, of the Sacramento (Cal.) this pretty clear that the President district, was also asked there to spend two or three days. He had been stumping in Maine and returned to Massachusetts prophesying a Republican victory. The President wanted, the end of November, when Congress however, to talk with him about Republican conditions in California, where the insurgents had swept the State and even nominated 2 progressive to number of people who want to previted there for the week-end, and not Associate Justice.

which have been in the vicinity of per-erly all Summer, have sailed away and may get a little practice now with other ships of the Navy. Late after-noon cruises in the bays and coves home of his most loyal advisers, but from all appearances he was more or because of his mission to The Hague, where he was the leading attorney for the United States Government in the arbi-tration of the fisheries dispute with Newfoundland. It is to be doubted Edward Whitson, of Spokane, for one he was the leading attorney for the cause of his great ability as a lawyer, was in Beverly a few days ago to rec-tration of the fisheries dispute with Newfoundland. It is to be doubted Edward Whitson, of Spokane, for one he was the leading attorney for the cause of his great ability as a lawyer, was in Beverly a few days ago to rec-torned by the cause of his great ability as a lawyer, was in Beverly a few days ago to rec-form all appearances he was more or less reluctant about it.

Harmony Between the President and to say on that subject beyond some in-recommendation will probably have Since the Saratoga convention there

Senator Root.

But Senator Root, next to Col. Rooseelt, is the leading New York Republican, and is in a position to tell the President much about the New York State campaign. The Senator and the President were colleagues in the Roosevelt Cabinet and were closely associated during the two last sessions of Congress on matters of legislation. While in the Senate, Mr. Root trained ex-clusively with the conservatives, but in politics generally he goes with Col. Roosevelt. He is very loyal none the less to President Taft, and his visit is expected to help some toward clear-ing up any misunderstandings. It has been claimed that his trip to Beverly at this time has no special significant because he has had a standing invita- Unusual Importance of Appointments. tion from the President to come to Beverly. Senator Root and Senator Crane are men whom the President has of Col. Roosevelt. It is known that the told to "drop around any time" they talk the President had with Mr. Ban-happen to be in the vicinity and feel

The President's friendly attitude toward practically all his one-time Cabinet colleagues is noteworthy. It has been emphasized in the visit of Senator Hitchcock had talked with politicians Root, and was also emphasized a few about the situation there before he days ago by a letter he wrote to Juscame to Beverly recently, and had a tice W. H. Moody, of the Supreme few suggestions for the President along Court. The latter wrote the President hat line.

The President promptly sent a tele-take effect Nov. 20 next. This is in

blow dealt to his leadership aspirations.

There is a world of talk about a big rheumatic attack nearly a year and a rheum Magnolia, Mass., a few miles from the President's cottage. There the Presiwho reason that the Colonel has not dent has visited him several times, and been giving his successor a square deal.

It goes without saying that a man of President Taft's caution will be very careful not to give any such movement. He will let that matter shape itself, taking care at the his willingness to resign any time the same time to keep well informed as to who is who and what is what with vised him to take his own time within regard to campaign developments. Al-the five months limitation set by the tho the President has made no active effort to promote his own renomination, would not think of nominating a Justice he has been stirred by activities in of the Supreme Court as a recess apother quarters, and as events are pro- pointment, but that the vacancy would not be filled by him until Congress assembled, so that the Senate could

Under all these conditions, the New York campaign becomes quite as interesting to the President as the Ohio campaign, where Gov. Harmon is running for re-election and also for the Democratic nomination in 1912.

Mr. Bannard came as a houseguest at Burgess Point, which suggests the fact that very few politicians have been interested in the New York campaign as the New York campaign as the Ohio campaign, where Gov. Harmon is running for re-election and also for the Democratic nomination in 1912.

Mr. Bannard came as a houseguest at Burgess Point, which suggests the fact that very few politicians have been seven Justices till about Jan. 1. 1911, at Washington during the short session, which ends March 4 next. Except for the appropriation bills, it will be difficult to dispose of much legislation unless there was president as presented in the short session, which ends March 4 next. Except for the appropriation bills, it will be difficult to dispose of much legislation unless there was a presty general agreement about it. The President's Movements.

For that reason, chiefly, he has delayed his resignation till Nov. 20.

All the while, however, the President has been considering names for this pose of much legislation unless there was a presty general agreement about it. The President's Movements. Burgess Point, which suggests the fact that very few politicians have been seven Justices till about Jan. 1, 1911. that very few politicians have been seven Justices till about Jan. 1, 1911. that washington during all of November. Charles E. Hughes has already resigned as Governor of New York, and this tasks will after the elections. Candi-

and even nominated a progressive to number of people who want to pre-succeed Mr. McKiniay in the House.

While a number of politicians have been asked to stay to luncheon or din-ner, these three are about the only ones ment applies not only to the two Suwho have been favored with requests preme Court vacancies, but alike to the five positions on the new Court of Comnard was invited to remain over till Monday, but found it necessary to go a After him comes Senator Root, who will have something to say about political conditions in the Empire State. Nominally Senator Root comes to report formerly a Populist, but has stood high-properties. teresting conversation of anecdotes and much weight, for the President thinks reminiscences. The President has allighly of him. Mr. Turner was a mem-rendy been informed thru the State ber of the Alaskan Boundary Commis-Department and thru the newspapers sion, and more recently went to The Hague, where he was one of the Government attorneys in presenting the fisheries arbitration. Root have been cordially associated on many Government matters.

Some of his visitors who come on

errands connected with these indicial appointments are advised to file papers with the Department of Justice at The President takes a Washington. very independent attitude about the selection of Federal Judges wearied by many of the applicants.
At least, one man has come to the President in his own behalf and virtually asked for a nomination on the Commerce Court. The President did not express surprise at the man's lack of modesty, but it is certain that that particular man will not be named as a

No President for many years, perhaps no other President since Wash-ington's time, has had so many important judicial appointments to make, President Taft, after his long experience as a judge, feels keenly the responsibility thus placed upon him and intends to exercise great caution in the nomination of the men, for all of them are appointed for life and will have a tremendous influence upon the high judicial pronouncements of the next gener-He will also consult freely about the qualifications of prospective nominees and will obtain the judgment in advance of Senators of the Judiciary Committee, whose favorable opinions are essential to the confirmation of judiciary nominations. The conferences over these nominations will take up a eal of the President's time prior to the assembling of Congress in an effort to select men whose nominations will be acceptable to the Judiciary Committee and also to the Senate

It is no exaggeration that exceptional work of this kind augments greatly the tasks the President has to dispose of before the assembling of Congress. The law fixes the Congressional elec-tions, in a great majority of cases, for the first Tuesday after the first Mon-day of November. As the calendar runs this year it brings the Congressional elections at the latest possible Congress is required by law Nov. 8. o assemble the first Monday in December, which happens to come this year very early in the month. Therefore, the period between election and the meeting week of Congress—always devoted to legislative preparations—is nearly a week shorter than usual. Present signs point to a "political

overturning in many States, and wheth-er the outcome be a Democratic House Representatives or not, the Republican leaders see that November be a very busy month at Washington. Party lines have been disrupted. Whatever the fortunes of the Democrats, a great struggle between the progres-The Supreme Court.

Justice Moody wished to remain a sive and the conservative Republicans member of the Court as long as he could, so that he would be provided over. There will be much turmoil all during the short session, which ends during the short session, which ends